



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOURBON EMPIRE ADDED TO EARLY TRIPLE CROWN NOMINEES

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Friday, Jan. 27, 2017) – Because of a clerical error, **Bourbon Lane Stable's Bourbon Empire** was inadvertently omitted from the original list of 3-year-olds made eligible during the early nomination phase to compete in the 2017 Triple Crown.

The addition of the New York-based **Mark Hennig**-trained colt brings the total number of early nominees to 419, which is a 13.9 percent increase from 2016's 368 horses.

Additionally, the ownership for **Grandpa's Dream** was misspelled on the list of nominations. The correct owner is **Wayne Scherr**.

The 2017 Triple Crown series opens on Saturday, May 6 with the 143rd running of the 1 ¼-mile Kentucky Derby at **Churchill Downs** in Louisville, Ky. The 142nd Preakness, the 1 3/16-mile second jewel, is set for Saturday, May 20 at **Pimlico Race Course** in Baltimore, Md. The 149th running of the Belmont Stakes, its 1 ½-mile final leg, is scheduled for Saturday, June 10 at **Belmont Park** in Elmont, N.Y.

Owners and trainers of promising 3-year-olds were required to pay a fee of \$600 to make their young stars eligible to compete in the Triple Crown series during the early nomination period, which concluded at 11:59 p.m. (all times Eastern) on Saturday, Jan. 14. A late nomination period, which requires the payment of \$6,000 for each nominated 3-year-old, is now underway and continues through Monday, March 20.

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